

CLAIMS

- 5 1. A method of assembling content from content providers, the content providers having the content available on a network, for delivery to a subscriber's terminal, comprising the steps of:
- obtaining a subscriber's content definition;
- defining a locator template having a plurality of parameter slots and being
- 10 compatible with a resource locator of a content provider having content meeting said content definition;
- recalling stored parameter and inserting said parameter values in said parameter slots to create a provider resource locator;
- transmitting said provider resource locator on the network;
- 15 receiving content from said content provider in response to said transmission of said provider resource locator; and
- assembling at least said received content for delivery to the subscriber's terminal.
- 20 2. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 1 further comprising the step of storing said received content.
3. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 2 further comprising the steps of:
- 25 when said content is received, assigning said received content a storage name, said storage name including a current date code and a content definition code; and
- confirming the existence of said storage name when at least said content is to be assembled, thereby identifying missing content.
- 30 4. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 1 wherein the step of recalling stored parameter values further comprises the step of

recalling stored parameter values that are stored in an association with at least part of said content definition.

5 5. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 1 wherein one of said stored parameters is a publication date, the method further comprising the step of incrementing said publication date by a predetermined time to create a second provider resource locator.

10 6. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 1 further comprising the step of varying a parameter value to account for predictable errors of said parameter value to create another provider resource locator.

15 7. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 1 further comprising the step of delivering said assembled content to the subscriber's terminal.

20 8. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 1 further comprising the step of conveying said assembled content to the subscriber's terminal.

25 9. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 1 wherein said step of obtaining a subscriber's content definition further comprises the step of recalling a subscriber profile.

30 10. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 9 further comprising the step of scheduling delivery of said assembled content at a time in accordance with said subscriber profile.

30 11. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 9 further comprising the steps of ascertaining subscriber advertising information

preference and further to said assembling step, assembling said preferred advertising information with said received content.

12. A document server that assembles content from content providers that
5 offer content on a network for delivery to a subscriber's terminal, comprising:
a knowledge module storing a subscriber's content definition;
a locator template that has a plurality of parameter slots and is compatible with
a resource locator of a selected content provider that offers content meeting said
content definition;
10 a database module that stores parameter values associated with said selected
content provider and content received from content providers;
a content manager that recalls said stored parameter values from said database
module, inserts said recalled parameter values in said parameter slots to create a
provider resource locator, accepts content from said selected content provider and
15 assembles content from said selected content provider for delivery to the subscriber's
terminal; and
a network interface that transmits said provider resource locator on said
network to obtain content from said selected content provider.

- 20 13. A method of assembling content from content providers, which have the
content available on a network, for delivery to a subscriber's terminal, comprising the
steps of:
accepting a subscriber's profile including at least first and second preferred
definitions of content;
25 defining first and second locator templates having a plurality of defined
parameter slots and being compatible with first and second resource locators of a first
content provider providing content meeting said first preferred definition and a second
content provider providing and content meeting said second preferred content,
respectively;
30 storing predetermined parameter values in an association with each of said
first and second preferred definitions of content;

recalling said predetermined parameter values for said first preferred definition of content, thereby identifying first values, and inserting said first values in said defined parameter slots of said first locator template to create a first content provider resource locator;

5 recalling said predetermined parameter values for said second preferred definition of content, thereby identifying second values, and inserting said second values in said defined parameter slots of said second locator template to create a second content provider resource locator;

transmitting said first content provider resource locator on the network;

10 transmitting said second content provider resource locator on the network;

receiving first content from said first content provider in response to said transmission of said first content provider resource locator and receiving second content from said second content provider in response to said transmission of said second content provider resource locator; and

15 assembling said first content and said second content for delivery to said subscriber.

14. A method of assembling content in accordance with the method of claim 13 further comprising the steps of:

20 when said first content is received, assigning said received first content a first storage name, said first storage name including a current date code and a first content definition code;

when said second content is received, assigning said received second content a second storage name, said second storage name including said current date code and a
25 second content definition code; and

confirming the existence of said first storage name and confirming the existence of said second storage name when said first and second content is to be assembled, thereby identifying missing content.